## Warden Message - U.S. Embassy, Quito, Ecuador

## UPDATE – Nationwide Police Strike Ends, Airports and Highways Reopen, Vigilance Advised with Decreased Police Presence

October 1, 2010

UPDATE – The protests associated with yesterday's crisis have come to an end. While many police have returned to work today, October 1, police presence is still unpredictable and not at normal levels. As a result, there is a higher risk of criminal activity in the coming days. The State of Exception also remains in place through Monday, October 4<sup>th</sup>. Until the police force is fully back to work, and the State of Exception is lifted, American citizens are advised to take caution and be aware of their surroundings. Avoid unnecessary travel if possible and try to avoid going out after dark.

In Quito, American citizens should be advised that, because the high volume of activity in the area surrounding Hospital Metropolitano, they should use other area hospitals if feasible.

The airports in Guayaquil and Quito have reopened. For the most up-to-date information on rescheduled flights, please contact airline carriers directly.

The U.S. Embassy recommends continuing to monitor Ecuadorian news outlets for any updates. As warranted, the Embassy will also provide new information.

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Americans living or traveling in Ecuador are encouraged to register with the nearest U.S. Embassy or Consulate and to obtain updated information on travel and security within Ecuador through the <u>Department of State's travel registration</u> <u>website</u>.

U.S. citizens should consult the <u>Country Specific Information</u> for Ecuador and the latest Travel Alerts and Warnings and Worldwide Caution at the <u>Department's website</u>. Updated information on travel and security in Ecuador may also be obtained from the Department of State by calling 1-888-407-4747 within the United States or by calling 1-202-501-4444 outside the United States.

The U.S. Embassy in Quito is located at Avigiras E12-170 y Eloy Alfaro. The telephone number for American Citizen Service (ACS) inquiries is (011 593-2) 398-5000. Within the same city use the last seven digits. Add the city code for intercity telephone calls. Public call-in hours are Monday through Thursday 8:00 to 10:00 a.m. and Friday 10:00 to 11:00 a.m. Appointments for ACS are available through our <u>website</u>.

The <u>U.S. Consulate General in Guayaquil</u> is located at the corner of Avenida 9 de Octubre and Garcia Moreno (near the Hotel Oro Verde); telephone (011-593-4) 232-3570 during business hours, 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., or 232-1152 for afterhours emergencies.

Anyone can follow the activities of the U.S. Embassy in Ecuador through the <u>Embassy web site</u>, <u>Facebook</u>, <u>Twitter</u> and YouTube.